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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/683,928
		Filing Date	October 10, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER
		Art Unit	2857
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00102

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Postcard
Remarks		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Derek J. WESTBERG (Reg. No. 40,872)
Signature	
Date	Jan 20, 2005

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Daniel RATOFF		
Signature		Date	Jan 20, 2005

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If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Robert R. HUNTER

Confirmation No.:

Application No: 10/683,928

Examiner:

Filing Date: October 10, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

Title: Method and Apparatus for Reading and Controlling Utility Consumption

\* \* \*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

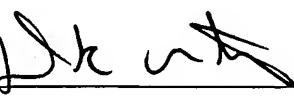
Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56(a), 1.97(c)(1) and 1.97(e)(2), Applicant hereby cites the following document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08 along with any required copies of listed document(s). In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h) the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1610.

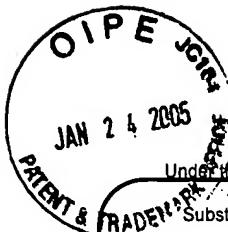
Respectfully submitted,  
Law Offices of Derek J. Westberg

By 

Derek J. Westberg  
Reg. No. 40,872

Jan. 20, 2005

Date



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**Substitute for form 1449A/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/683,928
Filing Date	October 10, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER
Art Unit	2857
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00102

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.